

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to ~~claim 1~~claim 18, wherein the anti-reflective treatment applied to the surface is a matte treatment.
3. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 2, wherein the matte treatment is texturing.
4. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to ~~claim 18~~claim 1, wherein the anti-reflective treatment is a disposition of a light absorbent member on the surface.
5. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to ~~claim 18~~claim 1, wherein the anti-reflective treatment is an opening in the surface.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to ~~claim 18~~claim 1, further comprising:

a contact area reducing member that reduces an area contacting the recording medium to be fed in the predetermined direction.
9. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 8, wherein the contact area reducing member is a plurality of ribs that protrude from the surface.
10. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 9, wherein the ribs protrude 2 mm or more from the surface.

11. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 9, wherein the ribs are not disposed under a position extending vertically downwardly from a side edge of a standard-size recording medium to be fed.

12. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 9, wherein the ribs are not disposed within 2 mm outward from the position extending vertically downwardly from a side edge of a standard-size recording medium to be fed.

13. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 9, wherein the ribs are made up of at least two kinds of ribs of different heights.

14. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 8, wherein ~~the side edge detector passes over the contact area reducing member and the~~ anti-reflective treatment are arranged on the surface in an area adapted to be passed over by the side edge detector.

15. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 18~~claim 1~~, further comprising plates disposed ~~on side edges of the flat platen and between the~~ surface and the side edge detector in order to prevent the recording medium from moving toward the side edge detector.

16. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 18~~claim 1~~, wherein the anti-reflective treatment is processed on the surface at areas that correspond to a vicinity of a side edge of a standard-size recording medium to be fed.

17. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus~~flat platen~~ according to claim 13, wherein a first kind of rib that has a lower height than a second kind of rib is closer to a side edge of a standard-size recording medium to be fed.

18. (Original) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image forming device that forms an image on a recording sheet;

a surface that is disposed in a position opposite to a direction the image forming device forms an image and includes an area on which the recording sheet rests;

a sheet feeding device that feeds the recording sheet in a predetermined direction; and

a side-edge detecting device having a light emitting device and a light receiving device that are disposed facing the recording sheet, the side edge detector detects a side edge of the recording sheet while moving in a direction perpendicular to the predetermined direction in order to emit light from the light emitting device, wherein at least an area irradiated with the light from the light emitting device is applied with an anti-reflective treatment that reduces an amount of light, emitted from the light emitting device, that is reflected on the surface and led to the receiving device.

19. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the anti-reflective treatment is a groove having an inclined plane in the surface.

20. (Original) The image forming apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the anti-reflective treatment is a protrusion having an inclined plane in the surface.